Federal Voting Assistance Program

Department of Defense

Military Voting Assistance Officers

Self-Administered Training

Introduction

Welcome to the 2010-2011 Voting Assistance Officer Training. This training provides information to help you carry out your duties as a Voting Assistance Officer (VAO) and conduct a successful voting assistance program.

Training Goals

In this training, you will learn about:

- The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)
- *The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA),* FVAP and You
- The Absentee Voting Process
- How to Use Absentee Voting Materials
- The Role of the Military Voting Assistance Officer
- Additional resources

Introduction

- This training program consists of five main sections:
  - UOCAVA, FVAP and You
  - The Absentee Voting Process
  - The Role of the Military Voting Assistance Officer
  - Available Resources
  - Quick Review and Certification

2010 Elections

During this election cycle, a number of important offices and items will go before the voters

- 38 United States Senators
- All Members of the U.S. House of Representatives
- 39 State and Territorial Governors
- State and Local Offices
- Ballot Questions and Referenda

UOCAVA, FVAP, and You

- The Director, Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP), administers the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA*) on behalf of the Secretary of Defense
- *UOCAVA* requires each federal department and agency with personnel covered by the Act to have a voting assistance program
- The FVAP biennial Voting Action Plan and Department of Defense Directive 1000.4 establish policy and guidelines for carrying out an effective voting assistance program

UOCAVA, FVAP, and You

- Your job as a VAO is to help to ensure that citizens understand their voting rights and how to register and vote absentee under *UOCAVA*

FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

UOCAVA, FVAP, and You

- *UOCAVA* requires states and territories to allow citizens covered under the Act to register and vote absentee for Federal offices
- States and territories have their own laws that allow *UOCAVA* citizens to vote in state and local elections
- U.S. citizens allowed to vote under *UOCAVA* include:
  - Members of the U.S. Uniformed Services (on active duty) and merchant marine;
  - Their family members
  - U.S. citizens residing outside the U.S.
- *UOCAVA* covers more than six million potential voters worldwide

UOCAVA, FVAP, and You

The goals of the FVAP and VAOs worldwide are

- Informing and educating U.S. citizens worldwide of their right to vote;
- Fostering voting participation;
- Protecting the integrity of, and enhance, the electoral process at the Federal, State, and local levels, and;
- Promoting effectiveness and efficiency in the administration of the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA).*

Immediate Objectives

- **1st: UOCAVA voting success rates to equal or exceed general population rates**
  - Absentee ballot cast rate
  - Registration/Absentee ballot request failure rate
  - FWAB utilization/success rate

- **2nd: UOCAVA voter participation rate to equal or exceed general population (by age group)**

FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Voting by Absentee Ballot

Voting by Absentee Ballot

Voting Requirements

- All states and territories have two basic voter requirements:
  - A voter must be a U.S. citizen, and;
  - At least 18 years old on election day in order to vote (some states permit a 17-year old to vote in primary election if he or she will be 18 by the date of the general election)

Voting by Absentee Ballot

The Voting Process

- The absentee voting process permits citizens covered by *UOCAVA*, who will be away from their local polling places on election day, to register, request a ballot, and vote through the mail (or an alternative method if allowed by the state)
- In order to receive a ballot in a timely manner, it is very important that citizens keep their local election officials informed of address changes

Voting by Absentee Ballot

The Absentee Voting Process

Step 1: Complete the FPCA to register and request your absentee ballot from your Election Official

Step 2: Election Official approves your FPCA and sends you a blank absentee ballot

Step 3: Complete the FWAB to ensure that your vote is received in time to be counted

Step 4: Complete the Absentee Ballot and return it to your Election Official

Step 5: Your vote is counted.

Voting by Absentee Ballot

The Federal Post Card Application

- The Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) is a postage-paid postcard for use by absentee voters covered under UOCAVA and is available through service distribution channels
- The On-Line Version of the FPCA is an alternative to the card stock FPCA, available at www.fvap.gov
- The *Voting Assistance Guide* provides voting procedures for all states and territories, including
  - Registration and ballot request deadlines
  - State ballot mail out timeframes
  - Ballot return deadlines
  - Electronic transmission alternatives

Voting by Absentee Ballot

The Federal Post Card Application

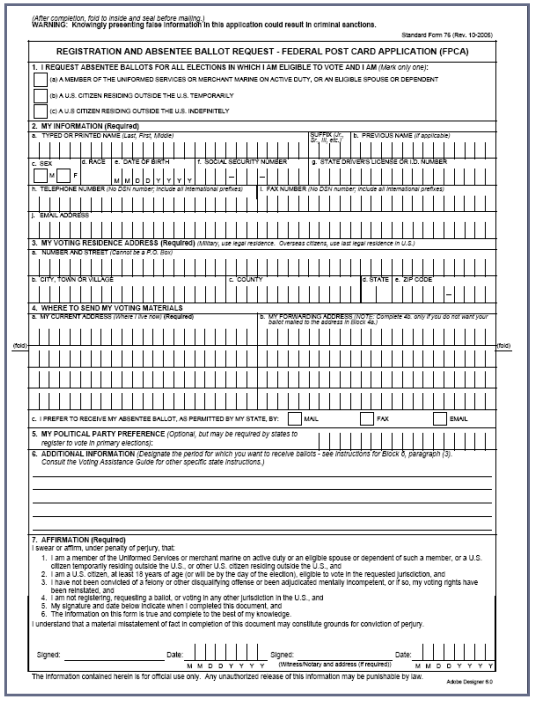
- The FPCA serves as a valid request for absentee voter registration and/or absentee ballot request, regardless of whether the sender was registered prior to submitting the FPCA

- Due to the mobility of *UOCAVA* citizens, FVAP recommends that each citizen submit an FPCA to his or her state of legal residence in January of each year and again each time there is a change in the citizen's mailing address

Voting by Absentee Ballot

The Federal Post Card Application

FPCA SF-76(Front)



(After completion, fold to inside and seal before mailing.)
WARNING: Knowingly presenting false information in this application could result in criminal sanctions.

Standard Form 76 (Rev. 10-2005)

REGISTRATION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST - FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION (FPCA)

1. I REQUEST ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR ALL ELECTIONS IN WHICH I AM ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AND I AM (Mark only one):
- (a) A MEMBER OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES OR MERCHANT MARINE ON ACTIVE DUTY, OR AN ELIGIBLE SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT
- (b) A U.S. CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. TEMPORARILY
- (c) A U.S CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. INDEFINITELY

2. MY INFORMATION (Required)
a. TYPED OR PRINTED NAME (Last, First, Middle) | SUFFIX (Jr., III, etc.) | b. PREVIOUS NAME (if applicable)
c. SEX | d. RACE | e. DATE OF BIRTH | f. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER | g. STATE DRIVER'S LICENSE OR I.D. NUMBER
h. TELEPHONE NUMBER (No DSN number. Include all international prefixes) | i. FAX NUMBER (No DSN number. Include all international prefixes)
j. EMAIL ADDRESS

3. MY VOTING RESIDENCE ADDRESS (Required) (Military, use legal residence. Overseas citizens, use last legal residence in U.S.)
a. NUMBER AND STREET (Cannot be a P.O. Box)
b. CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE | c. COUNTY | d. STATE | e. ZIP CODE

4. WHERE TO SEND MY VOTING MATERIALS
a. MY CURRENT ADDRESS (Where I live now) (Required) | b. MY FORWARDING ADDRESS (NOTE: Complete 4b only if you do not want your ballot mailed to the address in Block 4a.)
(fold) (fold)
c. I PREFER TO RECEIVE MY ABSENTEE BALLOT, AS PERMITTED BY MY STATE, BY: MAIL FAX EMAIL

5. MY POLITICAL PARTY PREFERENCE (Optional, but may be required by states to register to vote in primary elections):

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Designate the period for which you want to receive ballots - see instructions for Block 6, paragraph (3). Consult the Voting Assistance Guide for other specific state instructions.)

7. AFFIRMATION (Required)
I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that:
1. I am a member of the Uniformed Services or merchant marine on active duty or an eligible spouse or dependent of such a member, or a U.S. citizen temporarily residing outside the U.S., or other U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S., and
2. I am a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age (or will be by the day of the election), eligible to vote in the requested jurisdiction, and
3. I have not been convicted of a felony or other disqualifying offense or been adjudicated mentally incompetent, or if so, my voting rights have been reinstated, and
4. I am not registering, requesting a ballot, or voting in any other jurisdiction in the U.S., and
5. My signature and date below indicate when I completed this document, and
6. The information on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

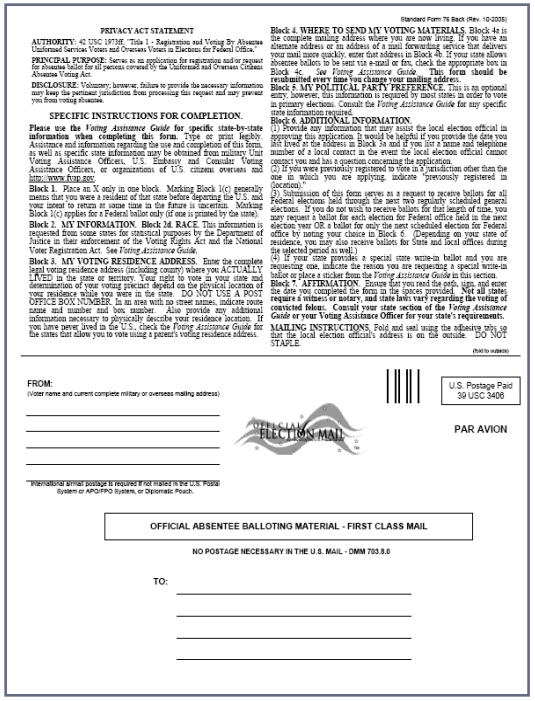
I understand that a material misstatement of fact in completion of this document may constitute grounds for conviction of perjury.

Signed: _____ Date: M M D D Y Y Y Y | Signed: (Witness/Notary and address (If required)) Date: M M D D Y Y Y Y

The information contained herein is for official use only. Any unauthorized release of this information may be punishable by law.

Adobe Designer 8.0

FPCA SF-76 (Back)



Standard Form 76 Back (Rev. 10-2005)

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

AUTHORITY: 42 USC 1973ff, Title I - Registration and Voting By Absentee Uniformed Services Voters and Overseas Voters in Elections for Federal Office."

PRINCIPAL PURPOSE: Serves as an application for registration and/or request for absentee ballot for all persons covered by the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act.

DISCLOSURE: Voluntary; however, failure to provide the necessary information may keep the pertinent jurisdiction from processing this request and may prevent you from voting absentee.

SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION.

Please use the *Voting Assistance Guide* for specific state-by-state information when completing this form. Type or print legibly. Assistance and information regarding the use and completion of this form, as well as specific state information may be obtained from military Unit Voting Assistance Officers, U.S. Embassy and Consular Voting Assistance Officers, or organizations of U.S. citizens overseas and http://www.fvap.gov.

Block 1. Place an X only in one block. Marking Block 1(c) generally means that you were a resident of that state before departing the U.S. and your intent to return at some time in the future is uncertain. Marking Block 1(c) applies for a Federal ballot only (if one is printed by the state).

Block 2. MY INFORMATION. Block 2d. RACE. This information is requested from some states for statistical purposes by the Department of Justice in their enforcement of the Voting Rights Act and the National Voter Registration Act. See *Voting Assistance Guide*.

Block 3. MY VOTING RESIDENCE ADDRESS. Enter the complete legal voting residence address (including county) where you ACTUALLY LIVED in the state or territory. Your right to vote in your state and determination of your voting precinct depend on the physical location of your residence while you were in the state. DO NOT USE A POST OFFICE BOX NUMBER. In an area with no street names, indicate route name and number and box number. Also provide any additional information necessary to physically describe your residence location. If you have never lived in the U.S., check the *Voting Assistance Guide* for the states that allow you to vote using a parent's voting residence address.

Block 4. WHERE TO SEND MY VOTING MATERIALS. Block 4a is the complete mailing address where you are now living. If you have an alternate address or an address of a mail forwarding service that delivers your mail more quickly, enter that address in Block 4b. If your state allows absentee ballots to be sent via e-mail or fax, check the appropriate box in Block 4c. *See Voting Assistance Guide.* **This form should be resubmitted every time you change your mailing address.**

Block 5. MY POLITICAL PARTY PREFERENCE. This is an optional entry, however, this information is required by most states in order to vote in primary elections. Consult the *Voting Assistance Guide* for any specific state information required.

Block 6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.
(1) Provide any information that may assist the local election official in approving this application. It would be helpful if you provide the date you last lived at the address in Block 3a and if you list a name and telephone number of a local contact in the event the local election official cannot contact you and has a question concerning the application.
(2) If you were previously registered to vote in a jurisdiction other than the one in which you are applying, indicate "previously registered in (location)."
(3) Submission of this form serves as a request to receive ballots for all Federal elections held through the next two regularly scheduled general elections. If you do not wish to receive ballots for that length of time, you may request a ballot for each election for Federal office held in the next election year OR a ballot for only the next scheduled election for Federal office by noting your choice in Block 6. (Depending on your state of residence, you may also receive ballots for State and local offices during the selected period as well.)
(4) If your state provides a special state write-in ballot and you are requesting one, indicate the reason you are requesting a special write-in ballot or place a sticker from the *Voting Assistance Guide* in this section.

Block 7. AFFIRMATION. Ensure that you read the path, sign, and enter the date you completed the form in the spaces provided. **Not all states require a witness or notary, and state laws vary regarding the voiding of convicted felons. Consult your state section of the *Voting Assistance Guide* or your Voting Assistance Officer for your state's requirements.**

MAILING INSTRUCTIONS. Fold and seal using the adhesive tabs so that the local election official's address is on the outside. DO NOT STAPLE.

(fold to outside)

FROM:
(Voter name and current complete military or overseas mailing address)

U.S. Postage Paid
39 USC 3406

MILITARY ELECTION MAIL

PAR AVION

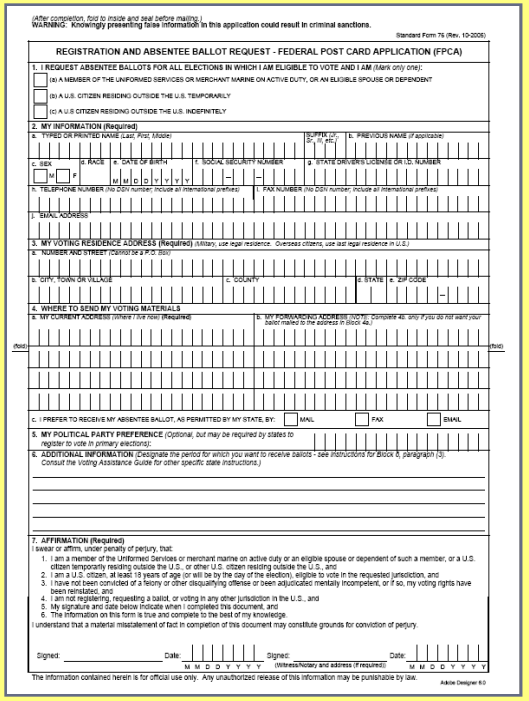
International airmail postage is required if not mailed in the U.S. Postal System or APO/FPO System, or Diplomatic Pouch.

OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOTING MATERIAL - FIRST CLASS MAIL

NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IN THE U.S. MAIL - DMM 703.8.0

TO:

FPCA SF-76A (Online)



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Standard Form 76 (Rev. 10-2005)

REGISTRATION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST - FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION (FPCA)

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- (a) A MEMBER OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES OR MERCHANT MARINE ON ACTIVE DUTY, OR AN ELIGIBLE SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT
- (b) A U.S. CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. TEMPORARILY
- (c) A U.S CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. INDEFINITELY

2. MY INFORMATION (Required)
a. TYPED OR PRINTED NAME (Last, First, Middle) | SUFFIX (Jr., III, etc.) | b. PREVIOUS NAME (if applicable)
c. SEX | d. RACE | e. DATE OF BIRTH | f. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER | g. STATE DRIVER'S LICENSE OR I.D. NUMBER
h. TELEPHONE NUMBER (No DSN number. Include all international prefixes) | i. FAX NUMBER (No DSN number. Include all international prefixes)
j. EMAIL ADDRESS

3. MY VOTING RESIDENCE ADDRESS (Required) (Military, use legal residence. Overseas citizens, use last legal residence in U.S.)
a. NUMBER AND STREET (Cannot be a P.O. Box)
b. CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE | c. COUNTY | d. STATE | e. ZIP CODE

4. WHERE TO SEND MY VOTING MATERIALS
a. MY CURRENT ADDRESS (Where I live now) (Required) | b. MY FORWARDING ADDRESS (NOTE: Complete 4b only if you do not want your ballot mailed to the address in Block 4a.)
(fold) (fold)
c. I PREFER TO RECEIVE MY ABSENTEE BALLOT, AS PERMITTED BY MY STATE, BY: MAIL FAX EMAIL

5. MY POLITICAL PARTY PREFERENCE (Optional, but may be required by states to register to vote in primary elections):

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Designate the period for which you want to receive ballots - see instructions for Block 6, paragraph (3). Consult the Voting Assistance Guide for other specific state instructions.)

7. AFFIRMATION (Required)
I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that:
1. I am a member of the Uniformed Services or merchant marine on active duty or an eligible spouse or dependent of such a member, or a U.S. citizen temporarily residing outside the U.S., or other U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S., and
2. I am a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age (or will be by the day of the election), eligible to vote in the requested jurisdiction, and
3. I have not been convicted of a felony or other disqualifying offense or been adjudicated mentally incompetent, or if so, my voting rights have been reinstated, and
4. I am not registering, requesting a ballot, or voting in any other jurisdiction in the U.S., and
5. My signature and date below indicate when I completed this document, and
6. The information on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

I understand that a material misstatement of fact in completion of this document may constitute grounds for conviction of perjury.

Signed: _____ Date: M M D D Y Y Y Y | Signed: (Witness/Notary and address (If required)) Date: M M D D Y Y Y Y

The information contained herein is for official use only. Any unauthorized release of this information may be punishable by law.

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http://www.fvap.gov/usm/usmfpca/index.html

Voting by Absentee Ballot

The Federal Post Card Application

- As a VAO, citizens will come to you for assistance in filling out the forms required to register and vote absentee under *UOCAVA*
- The following slides will walk through the process of completing and submitting the FPCA and the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot
- This process will be presented from your standpoint as a VAO providing assistance to a member of the Uniformed Services, Jim, and his wife, Jane, who want to register and vote in the November general election

Voting by Absentee Ballot

Completing the FPCA

Block 1: Register/Request Ballot

- Because Jim is in the Uniformed Services, he will check box (a)
- Jim's wife, Jane, and any eligible family members will also check box (a)
- This information determines, in some states, whether a voter receive a partial ballot (only Federal offices) or full ballot (Federal and non-Federal)
- All states allow Uniformed Services members to vote the full ballot – thus, Jim will receive the full ballot

REGISTRATION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST - FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION (FPCA)

1. I REQUEST ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR ALL ELECTIONS IN WHICH I AM ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AND I AM *(Mark only one)*:

- [X] (a) A MEMBER OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES OR MERCHANT MARINE ON ACTIVE DUTY, OR AN ELIGIBLE SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT
- [ ] (b) A U.S. CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. TEMPORARILY
- [ ] (c) A U.S CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. INDEFINITELY

Voting by Absentee Ballot

Completing the FPCA

Block 2: My Information

- Information on race is requested by some states, but Jim's application will not be rejected if he leaves it blank
- You encourage Jim to provide a telephone, fax number, and email, which will help the local election official communicate with him and

2. MY INFORMATION

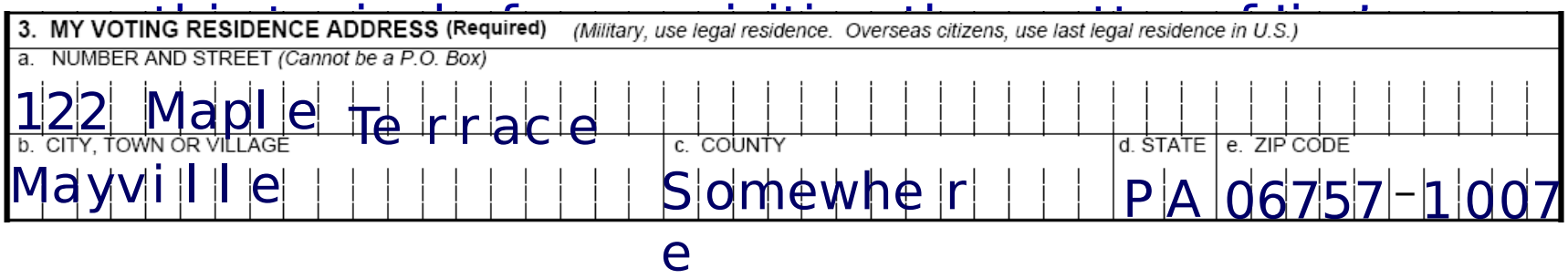
a. TYPED OR PRINTED NAME (Last, First, Middle)				SUFFIX (Jr., Sr., III, etc.)	b. PREVIOUS NAME (if applicable)
Jones, James, Larry				Sr	
c. SEX	d. RACE	e. DATE OF BIRTH	f. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		g. STATE DRIVER'S LICENSE OR I.D. NUMBER
X M F		05 17 1985 (M M D D Y Y Y Y)	– –		11 2XY-14525771772
h. TELEPHONE NUMBER (No DSN number; include all international prefixes)			i. FAX NUMBER (No DSN number; include all international prefixes)		
23-145-14-5777145			23-145-14-67879145		
j. EMAIL ADDRESS					
jj.pdf57@hawkstoothc om					

Voting by Absentee Ballot

Completing the FPCA

Block 3: My Voting Residence

- The information that Jim enters here will determine which ballot he will be sent
- Jim is pretty sure that his voting residence is in California, but since he has moved around quite a bit since joining the Uniformed Service, he has asked you for help in making sure
- Since residency questions can be complicated, the following slides will provide some general guidelines


3. MY VOTING RESIDENCE ADDRESS (Required) *(Military, use legal residence. Overseas citizens, use last legal residence in U.S.)*

a. NUMBER AND STREET *(Cannot be a P.O. Box)*

122 Maple Terrace

b. CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE	c. COUNTY	d. STATE	e. ZIP CODE
Mayville	Somewhere	PA	06757-1007

Voting by Absentee Ballot

Voting Residence

- Each voter must have a legal residence address in a state or territory to vote in U.S. elections
- Final determinations on issues of voting residence are made by the local election officials
- Voters should provide as much information as possible on the FPCA to help ensure successful registration and ballot request
- Always check with legal counsel if you have questions about legal residence

Voting by Absentee Ballot

Voting Residence: Uniformed Service Citizens

- For members of the Uniformed Services and their family members, legal voting residence (in most states) is defined as where the citizen has, or has had, physical presence at the location and where there is intent to remain or return
- A voter may only have one legal residency at a time
- Once residence is changed, a voter may not revert to the previous residence without re-establishing new physical presence and intent to remain or return
- Factors to consider in determining correct voting residence:
  - What is the address on your leave and earnings statement?
  - Where have you registered to vote?
  - Where is your vehicle registered?
  - Where was your driver's license or state I.D. card issued?

Voting by Absentee Ballot

Now, back to Jim. He presents the following facts to you concerning his voting residency situation:

- Jim resided in Minnesota (MN) where he joined the Milita in 2000. Jim's MN address will always be his home of rec
- Jim was stationed in North Carolina (NC) after leaving MI Jim still considered himself a MN resident, and had no intent on changing his residence to NC, even though obtained a NC driver's license.
- For the 2002 general election, Jim used the FPCA to request a ballot and voted absentee in MN, as that was still his voting residence
- One year later, Jim rented an apartment in NC, registered his vehicle in NC, and had all of his bank accounts in NC. Also, Jim got married in NC to Jane, a NC resident.

MN

NC

Voting by Absentee Ballot

- In the 2004 general election, Jim, who still considered MN his state of residence, voted absentee in MN. Jane, even though she was an eligible *UOCAVA* voter as Jim's spouse, could not vote in MN since she had never established a legal residence there. Thus, she voted locally at the polls in NC.
- In 2005, Jim was transferred to California, where he and Jane purchased a home and she began working
- For the 2006 general election, Jim again voted absentee in MN, since he had not made a conscious decision to make CA his state of voting residence. Jane, although paying CA income taxes, also never made a conscious decision to make CA her state of residence. Thus, Jane sent an FPCA to NC and voted absentee there.

Voting by Absentee Ballot

- In 2007, Jim and Jane both made a conscious decision to make CA their state of legal residence, and they registered to vote there
- In the 2008 general election, they vote at the polls in CA
- In 2009, Jim is transferred to Japan. While in Jap
  Jim and Jane decide that they miss NC, and will
  return there in 2011.

- Now, in 2009, Jim and Jane are filling out the FPCA, and they have questions about voting in 201 – can Jane vote in NC, since she was once a resident there, and they intend to return there in 2011? Can Jim vote in MN, since he was once a resident there, and it is his home of record?

Voting by Absentee Ballot

- Even though Jim once had legal residence in MN and Jane in NC, they cannot vote in those states because they both established legal residence in CA. For Jane to vote in NC, and Jim in MN, they would have to re-establish residence there, which would require at minimum their physical presence
- Thus, since CA is still Jim and Jane's state of legal reside they fill out block 3 of the FPCA with the address they h in that state

- Key points to remember:
  - You may only have one legal residence at a time, but you may change it each time you are transferred to a new location
  - The address on your leave and earnings statement is often your legal residence address

Voting by Absentee Ballot

Completing the FPCA

Block 4: Where to Send My Voting Materials

- Since Jim is currently stationed overseas at an APO, he enters his mailing address at that location
- You remind Jim to notify his local election official ASAP if/when he has an address change
- Jim can check the VAG to see if his state permits faxing or emailing of the ballot

4. WHERE TO SEND MY VOTING MATERIALS

a. MY CURRENT ADDRESS *(Where I live now)* **(Required)**	b. MY FORWARDING ADDRESS *(NOTE: Complete 4b. only if you do not want your ballot mailed to the address in Block 4a.)*
James Larry Jones	James Larry Jones
USS FVAP	12 North Courts
FPO AE 54321	Rockville, PN 43210

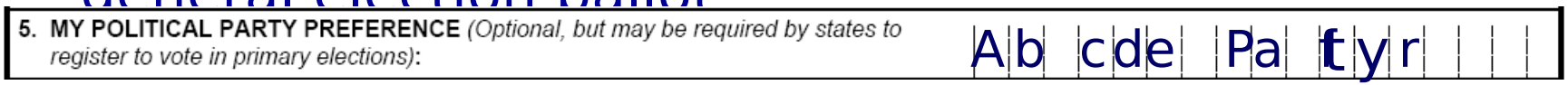
c. I PREFER TO RECEIVE MY ABSENTEE BALLOT, AS PERMITTED BY MY STATE, BY: [X] MAIL [ ] FAX [ ] EMAIL

Voting by Absentee Ballot

Completing the FPCA

Block 5: My Political Party Preference

- Political party preference is required in most states to participate in partisan primary elections
- In a partisan primary election, candidates from a political party are chosen to represent that party in a subsequent general election
- After checking his state's requirements in the VAG, Jim decides to enter his political party preference
- Note that even if Jim did not enter party preference, he would still receive the November general election ballot


5. MY POLITICAL PARTY PREFERENCE (Optional, but may be required by states to register to vote in primary elections):
Abcde Party

Voting by Absentee Ballot

Completing the FPCA

Block 6: Additional Information

- Provide any additional information in this box that may assist your Local Election Official with processing your form.
- Your State also may require additional language be included in this box.

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION *(Designate the period for which you want to receive ballots - see instructions for Block 6, paragraph (3). Consult the Voting Assistance Guide for other specific state instructions.)*

Last date lived in Mayville: Feb. 2002.

Due to military contingencies, I am unable to follow the regular absentee ballot application process. I request a special write-in ballot.

Voting by Absentee Ballot

Completing the FPCA

Block 7: Affirmation

- After reading the affirmation, Jim signs and dates the application
- You remind Jim that by signing the FPCA, he is verifying his information under the penalty of perjury

7. AFFIRMATION

I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that:

1. I am a member of the Uniformed Services or merchant marine on active duty or an eligible spouse or dependent of such a member, or a U.S. citizen temporarily residing outside the U.S., or other U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S., and
2. I am a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age (or will be by the day of the election), eligible to vote in the requested jurisdiction, and
3. I have not been convicted of a felony or other disqualifying offense or been adjudicated mentally incompetent, or if so, my voting rights have been reinstated, and
4. I am not registering, requesting a ballot, or voting in any other jurisdiction in the U.S., and
5. My signature and date below indicate when I completed this document, and
6. The information on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

I understand that a material misstatement of fact in completion of this document may constitute grounds for conviction of perjury.

Signed: *James* ***L. Jones*** Date: 0 8 0 7 2 0 0 6 (M M D D Y Y Y Y) Signed: _____ (Witness/Notary and address (if required)) Date: _____ (M M D D Y Y Y Y)

The information contained herein is for official use only. Any unauthorized release of this information may be punishable by law.

Voting by Absentee Ballot

Jim is now ready to mail his FPCA:

- First, he checks his state's requirements in the VAG to make sure he complies with any/all state deadlines
- Next, he looks in his state's section of the VAG for the mailing address of his local election official
- He enters the complete address for the local election official on the FPCA mailing envelope
  - You notify Jim that if he mails his FPCA through the U.S. Post Office (including APO/FPO) or diplomatic pouch, he should not write "USA" in the address line of the mailing envelope, as this could cause delay
  - Note that if Jim was using a foreign country's postal service, he would have to apply local postage, and he should write "USA" in the address line of the mailing envelope

Voting by Absentee Ballot

How to Send It

- Cardstock version of the FPCA is postage-paid in the US Mails
  - U.S. Postal Service
  - Military Postal Service
  - State Department Pouch Mail

- Online version must be placed in an envelope and postage is not automatically paid
  - Postage Paid envelope template available at http://www.fvap.gov/resources/media/returnenvelope.pdf

Voting by Absentee Ballot

- When the local election official receives Jim's FPCA he/she will process the form and send the ballot to Jim's mailing address, provided that Jim meets the state residency requirements and his FPCA was fully completed
- Jim is encouraged to call, fax, or email his local election official to verify that her application was processed.
- Jim should receive his regular state absentee ballot from the local election official in time for him to vote the ballot by the state's deadline for

Voting by Absentee Ballot

Top Reasons why an FPCA Cannot be Processed

- Inadequate or No Legal Voting Residence Address
- Inadequate or Illegible Current Mailing Address
- Illegible Writing
- Applying to the Wrong Jurisdiction
- Failure to Indicate Party Preference (for Primary Elections)
- Form not signed and/or dated
- Received too late
- Form not completed
- Envelope lacks proper postage

FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Voting by Absentee Ballot

Consequences of Failure

YOU MAY BE UNABLE TO SUCCESFULLY RECEIVE AND CAST YOUR BALLOT

Voting by Absentee Ballot

Recent Elections Potential Decided by UOCAVA Voters

- 2000: Florida Presidential Election
- 2006: Virginia U.S. Senate Election
- 2008: Alaska U.S. Senate Election
- 2008: Minnesota U.S. Senate Election
- 2009: New York 20th Cong. District Special Election

Voting by Absentee Ballot

Electronic Transmission

- All states and territories will transmit a blank FPCA through electronic transmission (faxing or emailing) of the, and some allow electronic transmission of the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot and other election materials
- Chapter One of the *Voting Assistance Guide* details which electronic alternatives are available in each state and territory
- Refer to the Voting Assistance Guide for detailed transmittal instructions

Voting by Absentee Ballot

FVAP Electronic Transmission Service

FVAP provides toll-free faxing and email support to Uniformed Services members, family members and overseas citizens.

- Faxing: DSN faxing and toll-free fax numbers in 51 countries
  - http://www.fvap.gov/contact/tollfreefax.html
- Email: Send materials in PDF form to ets@fvap.ncr.gov
  - Where allowed by your state, you may also send your election materials to this email address for email-to-fax conversion.

Voting by Absentee Ballot

The Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot

- Occasionally, even though a *UOCAVA* voter has submitted a complete and timely FPCA, he/she may not receive the ballot in time to return it by the state's deadline
- In situations like this, *UOCAVA* citizens may use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB)
- The FWAB is a ballot that can be used by *UOCAVA* citizens in all general elections for Federal offices
- The FWAB is pre-positioned at Uniformed Service bases throughout the world and available online at www.fvap.gov

Voting by Absentee Ballot

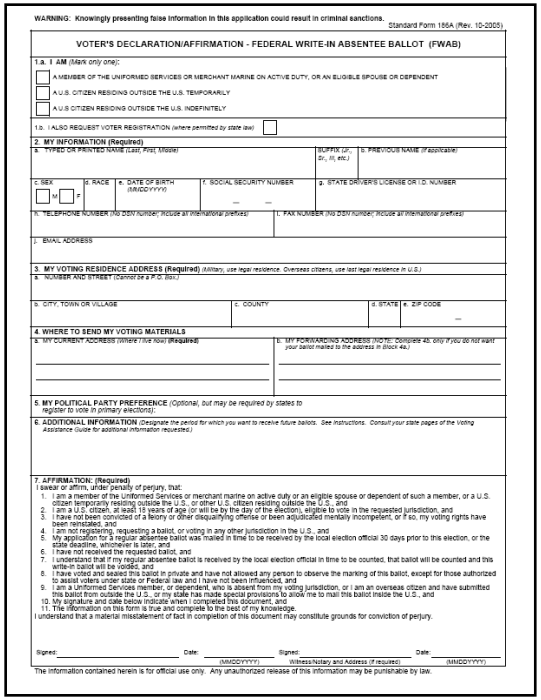
The Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot

- You can submit the FWAB at any time, and multiple times
- In most cases you can only use the FWAB to vote for Federal offices in general elections.
- Some States have expanded the use of the FWAB to include
  - Voting in primary, run-off, and special elections
  - Voting for offices other than Federal offices.
  - Use as a registration and ballot request.
- You should still return your regular state ballot
- Submit the FWAB no later than 30 days before the election.

Voting by Absentee Ballot

The Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot

FWAB SF-186



WARNING: Knowingly presenting false information in this application could result in criminal sanctions.

Standard Form 186A (Rev. 10-2005)

VOTER'S DECLARATION/AFFIRMATION - FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT (FWAB)

1a. I AM (Mark only one):

- A MEMBER OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES OR MERCHANT MARINE ON ACTIVE DUTY, OR AN ELIGIBLE SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT
- A U.S. CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. TEMPORARILY
- A U.S CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. INDEFINITELY

1b. I ALSO REQUEST VOTER REGISTRATION (where permitted by state law)

2. MY INFORMATION (Required)

a. TYPED OR PRINTED NAME (Last, First, Middle) | SUFFIX (Jr., Sr., II, etc.) | b. PREVIOUS NAME (If applicable)

c. SEX | d. RACE | e. DATE OF BIRTH (MMDDYYYY) | f. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER | g. STATE DRIVER'S LICENSE OR I.D. NUMBER

h. TELEPHONE NUMBER (NO DSN NUMBER; include all international prefixes) | i. FAX NUMBER (NO DSN NUMBER; include all international prefixes)

j. EMAIL ADDRESS

3. MY VOTING RESIDENCE ADDRESS (Required) (Military, use legal residence. Overseas citizens, use last legal residence in U.S.)

a. NUMBER AND STREET (Cannot be a P.O. Box.)

b. CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE | c. COUNTY | d. STATE | e. ZIP CODE

4. WHERE TO SEND MY VOTING MATERIALS

a. MY CURRENT ADDRESS (Either a box or b is required) | b. MY FORWARDING ADDRESS (NOTE: Complete 4b only if you do not want your ballot mailed to the address in Block 4a.)

5. MY POLITICAL PARTY PREFERENCE (Optional, but may be required by states to register to vote in primary elections)

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Designate the period for which you want to receive future ballots. See instructions. Consult your state pages of the Voting Assistance Guide for additional information requested.)

7. AFFIRMATION: (Required)

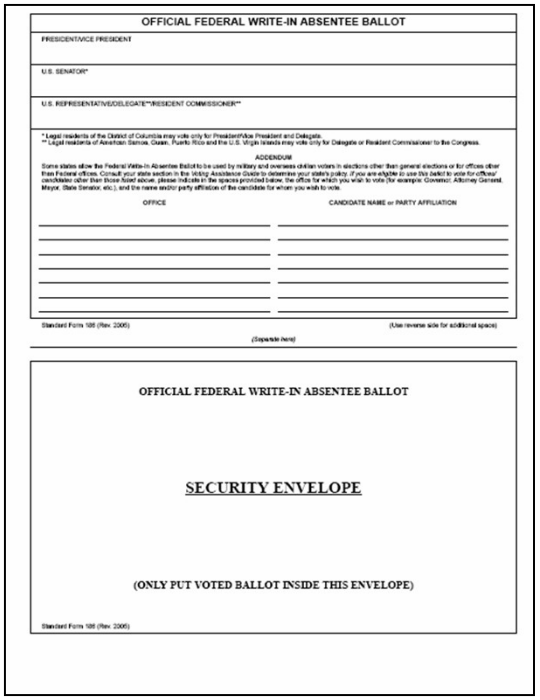
I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that:

1. I am a member of the Uniformed Services or merchant marine on active duty or an eligible spouse or dependent of such a member, or a U.S. citizen temporarily residing outside the U.S., or other U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S., and
2. I am a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age (or will be by the day of the election), eligible to vote in the requested jurisdiction, and
3. I have not been convicted of a felony or other disqualifying offense or been adjudicated mentally incompetent, or if so, my voting rights have been reinstated, and
4. I am not registering, requesting a ballot, or voting in any other jurisdiction in the U.S., and
5. My application for a regular absentee ballot was mailed in time to be received by the local election official 30 days prior to this election, or the state deadline, whichever is later, and
6. I have not received the requested ballot, and
7. I understand that if my regular absentee ballot is received by the local election official in time to be counted, that ballot will be counted and this write-in ballot will be voided, and
8. I have voted and sealed this ballot in private and have not allowed any person to observe the marking of this ballot, except for those authorized to assist voters under state or Federal law and I have not been influenced, and
9. I am a Uniformed Services member, or dependent, who is absent from my voting jurisdiction, or I am an overseas citizen and have submitted this ballot from outside the U.S., or my state has made special provisions to allow me to mail this ballot inside the U.S., and
10. My signature and date below indicate when I completed this document; and
11. The information on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

I understand that a material misstatement of fact in completion of this document may constitute grounds for conviction of perjury.

Signed: _____ Date: _____ (MMDDYYYY) Signed: _____ Witness/Notary and Address (If required) _____ Date: _____ (MMDDYYYY)

The information contained herein is for official use only. Any unauthorized release of this information may be punishable by law.



OFFICIAL FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT

PRESIDENT/VICE PRESIDENT

U.S. SENATOR*

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE/DELEGATE**/RESIDENT COMMISSIONER**

* Legal residents of the District of Columbia may vote only for President/Vice President and Delegate.
** Legal residents of American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands may vote only for Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress.

ADDENDUM

Some states allow the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot to be used by military and overseas civilian voters in elections other than general elections or for offices other than Federal offices. Consult your state section in the Voting Assistance Guide to determine your state's policy. If you are eligible to use this ballot to vote for offices/candidates other than those listed above, please indicate in the spaces provided below, the office for which you wish to vote (for example: Governor, Attorney General, Mayor, State Senator, etc.), and the name and/or party affiliation of the candidate for whom you wish to vote.

OFFICE	CANDIDATE NAME or PARTY AFFILIATION

Standard Form 186 (Rev. 2005) (Use reverse side for additional space)

(Separate here)

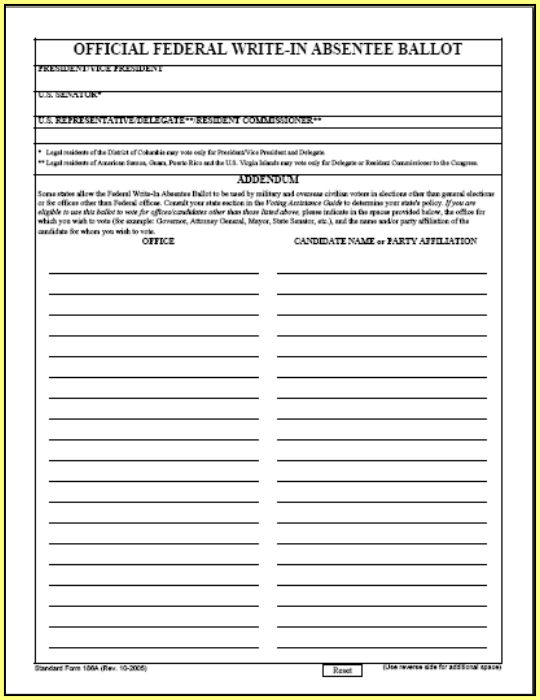
OFFICIAL FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT

SECURITY ENVELOPE

(ONLY PUT VOTED BALLOT INSIDE THIS ENVELOPE)

Standard Form 186 (Rev. 2005)

FWAB SF-186A(Online)



OFFICIAL FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT

PRESIDENT/VICE PRESIDENT

U.S. SENATOR*

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE/DELEGATE**/RESIDENT COMMISSIONER**

* Legal residents of the District of Columbia may vote only for President/Vice President and Delegate.
** Legal residents of American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands may vote only for Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress.

ADDENDUM

Some states allow the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot to be used by military and overseas civilian voters in elections other than general elections or for offices other than Federal offices. Consult your state section in the *Voting Assistance Guide* to determine your state's policy. *If you are eligible to use this ballot to vote for offices/candidates other than those listed above,* please indicate in the spaces provided below, the office for which you wish to vote (for example: Governor, Attorney General, Mayor, State Senator, etc.), and the name and/or party affiliation of the candidate for whom you wish to vote.

OFFICE	CANDIDATE NAME or PARTY AFFILIATION

Standard Form 186A (Rev. 10-2005) Reset (Use reverse side for additional space)

http://www.fvap.gov/usm/usmfwab/index.html

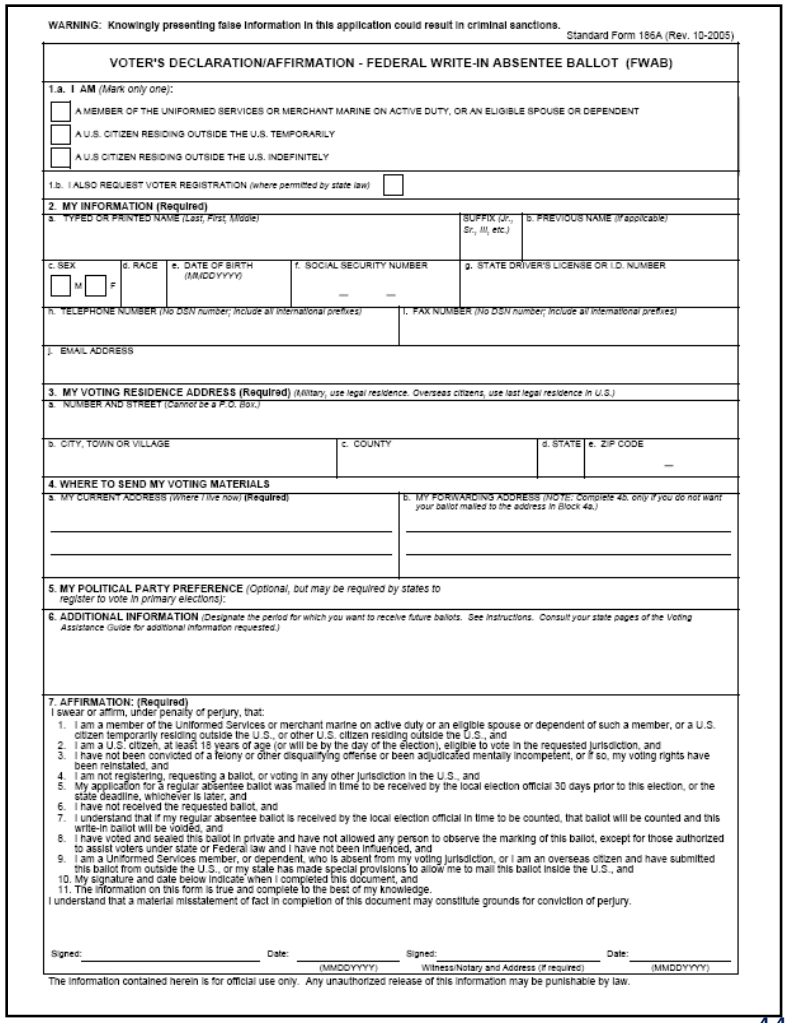
Voting by Absentee Ballot

- It is 34 days before the general election, and Jim has returned to you for additional assistance
- Jim has not received his absentee ballot and he is concerned that there is not enough time to return it in a timely manner if/when he does get it
- As a VAO, you know that FVAP recommends that a *UOCAVA* voter who has not received his/her ballot should complete and submit the FWAB no later than the 30th day before the election

Voting by Absentee Ballot

Completing the FWAB

- First, you tell Jim to read all instructions carefully before completing the Declaration/ Affirmation, which is very similar to the FPCA
- Next, you notify Jim that, as with the FPCA, some states require that a notary/witness sign the FWAB, so he should check the VAG to find out what is required in his state
- Jim signs and dates at the bottom of Declaration/Affirmation



WARNING: Knowingly presenting false information in this application could result in criminal sanctions.

Standard Form 186A (Rev. 10-2005)

VOTER'S DECLARATION/AFFIRMATION - FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT (FWAB)

1.a. I AM *(Mark only one)*:

- ☐ A MEMBER OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES OR MERCHANT MARINE ON ACTIVE DUTY, OR AN ELIGIBLE SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT
- ☐ A U.S. CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. TEMPORARILY
- ☐ A U.S CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. INDEFINITELY

1.b. I ALSO REQUEST VOTER REGISTRATION *(where permitted by state law)* ☐

2. MY INFORMATION (Required)

a. TYPED OR PRINTED NAME *(Last, First, Middle)* | SUFFIX *(Jr., Sr., III, etc.)* | b. PREVIOUS NAME *(If applicable)*

c. SEX ☐ M ☐ F | d. RACE | e. DATE OF BIRTH *(MMDDYYYY)* | f. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER ___ ___ | g. STATE DRIVER'S LICENSE OR I.D. NUMBER

h. TELEPHONE NUMBER *(No DSN number; include all international prefixes)* | i. FAX NUMBER *(No DSN number; include all international prefixes)*

j. EMAIL ADDRESS

3. MY VOTING RESIDENCE ADDRESS (Required) *(Military, use legal residence. Overseas citizens, use last legal residence in U.S.)*

a. NUMBER AND STREET *(Cannot be a P.O. Box.)*

b. CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE | c. COUNTY | d. STATE | e. ZIP CODE ___

4. WHERE TO SEND MY VOTING MATERIALS

a. MY CURRENT ADDRESS *(Where I live now)* (Required) | b. MY FORWARDING ADDRESS *(NOTE: Complete 4b. only if you do not want your ballot mailed to the address in Block 4a.)*

5. MY POLITICAL PARTY PREFERENCE *(Optional, but may be required by states to register to vote in primary elections)*:

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION *(Designate the period for which you want to receive future ballots. See instructions. Consult your state pages of the Voting Assistance Guide for additional information requested.)*

7. AFFIRMATION: (Required)

I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that:

1. I am a member of the Uniformed Services or merchant marine on active duty or an eligible spouse or dependent of such a member, or a U.S. citizen temporarily residing outside the U.S., or other U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S., and
2. I am a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age (or will be by the day of the election), eligible to vote in the requested jurisdiction, and
3. I have not been convicted of a felony or other disqualifying offense or been adjudicated mentally incompetent, or if so, my voting rights have been reinstated, and
4. I am not registering, requesting a ballot, or voting in any other jurisdiction in the U.S., and
5. My application for a regular absentee ballot was mailed in time to be received by the local election official 30 days prior to this election, or the state deadline, whichever is later, and
6. I have not received the requested ballot, and
7. I understand that if my regular absentee ballot is received by the local election official in time to be counted, that ballot will be counted and this write-in ballot will be voided, and
8. I have voted and sealed this ballot in private and have not allowed any person to observe the marking of this ballot, except for those authorized to assist voters under state or Federal law and I have not been influenced, and
9. I am a Uniformed Services member, or dependent, who is absent from my voting jurisdiction, or I am an overseas citizen and have submitted this ballot from outside the U.S., or my state has made special provisions to allow me to mail this ballot inside the U.S., and
10. My signature and date below indicate when I completed this document, and
11. The information on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

I understand that a material misstatement of fact in completion of this document may constitute grounds for conviction of perjury.

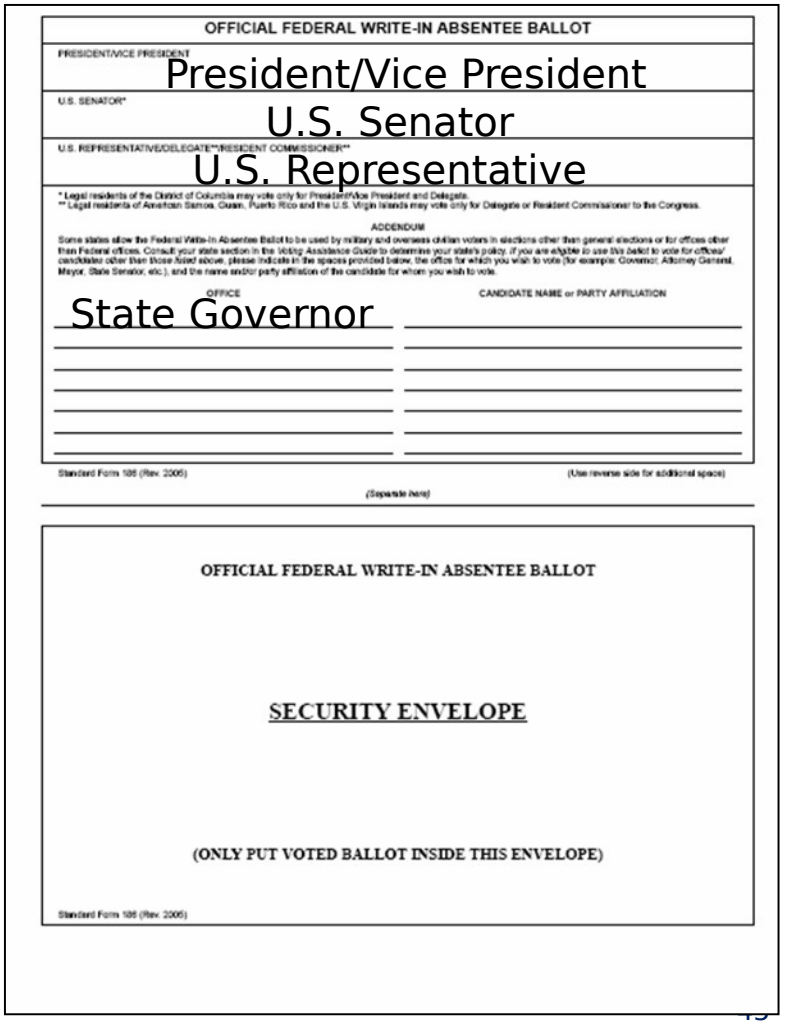
Signed: _____ Date: _____ (MMDDYYYY) | Signed: _____ Witness/Notary and Address (If required) Date: _____ (MMDDYYYY)

The information contained herein is for official use only. Any unauthorized release of this information may be punishable by law.

Voting by Absentee Ballot

Completing the FWAB

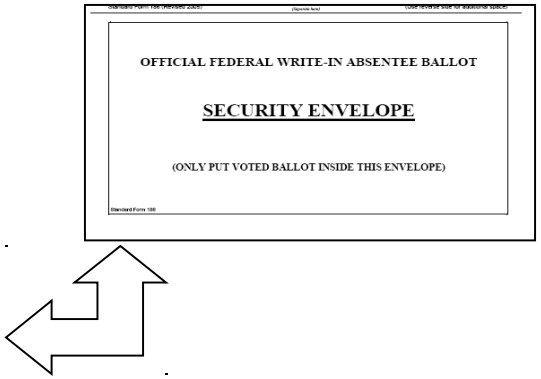
- Jim is now ready to complete the write-in ballot, but before he does so, you explain to him that:
  - The FWAB is used for Federal offices, so he can write in his preferred candidates for the Office of President and Vice President, U.S. Senator, and U.S. Representative
  - For each office, he may write in either a candidate's name or a political party designation
  - Some states have expanded the use of the FWAB for state and local offices as well, so he should check the VAG to see if his state allows him to write-in these offices


OFFICIAL FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT
PRESIDENT/VICE PRESIDENT
President/Vice President
U.S. SENATOR*
U.S. Senator
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE/DELEGATE**/RESIDENT COMMISSIONER**
U.S. Representative
* Legal residents of the District of Columbia may vote only for President/Vice President and Delegate.
** Legal residents of American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands may vote only for Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress.
ADDENDUM
Some states allow the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot to be used by military and overseas civilian voters in elections other than general elections or for offices other than Federal offices. Consult your state section in the Voting Assistance Guide to determine your state's policy. If you are eligible to use this ballot to vote for offices/candidates other than those listed above, please indicate in the spaces provided below, the office for which you wish to vote (for example: Governor, Attorney General, Mayor, State Senator, etc.), and the name and/or party affiliation of the candidate for whom you wish to vote.
OFFICE
CANDIDATE NAME or PARTY AFFILIATION
State Governor
Standard Form 186 (Rev. 2005)
(Use reverse side for additional space)
(Separate here)
OFFICIAL FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT
SECURITY ENVELOPE
(ONLY PUT VOTED BALLOT INSIDE THIS ENVELOPE)
Standard Form 186 (Rev. 2005)

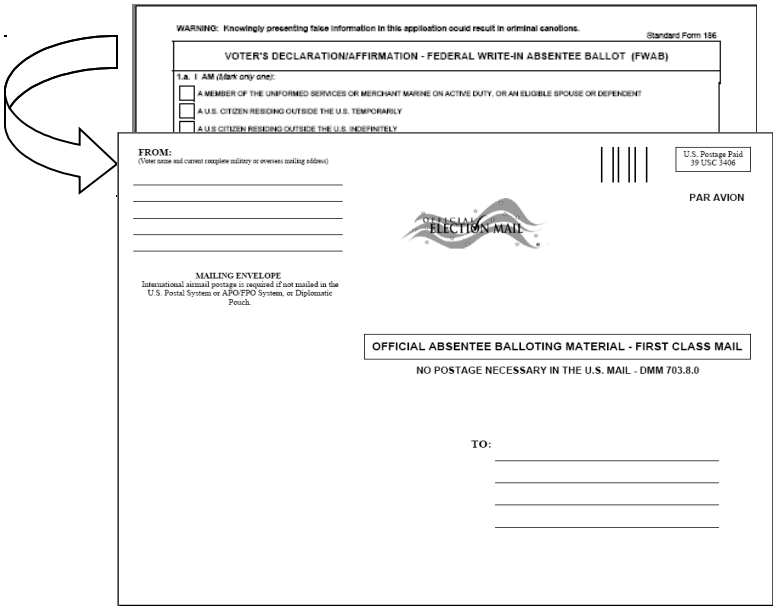
Voting by Absentee Ballot

- Next, Jim inserts (1) the sealed security envelope (containing the voted write-in ballot) and (2) the Declaration/Affirmation into the mailing envelope

(1)



(2)


WARNING: Knowingly presenting false information in this application could result in criminal sanctions.
Standard Form 186
VOTER'S DECLARATION/AFFIRMATION - FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT (FWAB)
1.a. I AM (Mark only one):
A MEMBER OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES OR MERCHANT MARINE ON ACTIVE DUTY, OR AN ELIGIBLE SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT
A U.S. CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. TEMPORARILY
A U.S CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. INDEFINITELY
FROM:
(Voter name and current complete military or overseas mailing address)
U.S. Postage Paid
39 USC 3406
PAR AVION
OFFICIAL ELECTION MAIL
MAILING ENVELOPE
International airmail postage is required if not mailed in the U.S. Postal System or APO/FPO System, or Diplomatic Pouch.
OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOTING MATERIAL - FIRST CLASS MAIL
NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IN THE U.S. MAIL - DMM 703.8.0
TO:

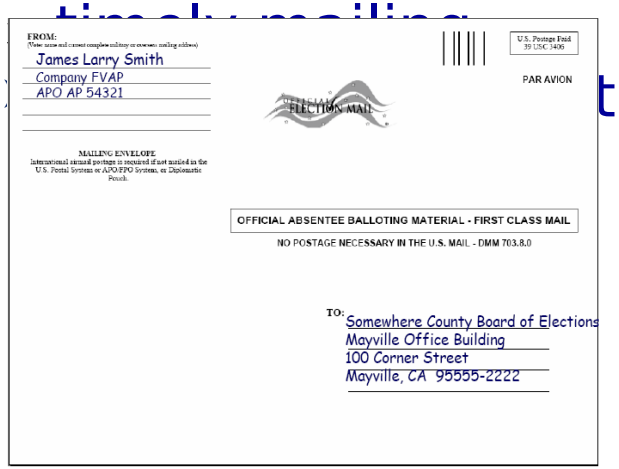
Mailing Envelope

Voting by Absentee Ballot

- Jim looks in his state's section of the VAG for the mailing address of his local election official
- He enters the complete address of the local election official on the FWAB mailing envelope
  - You notify Jim that if he is mailing his FWAB through the U.S. Post Office (including APO/FPO), he should not write "USA" in the address line of the mailing envelope, as this could cause delay
  - Note that if Jim was using a foreign country's postal service, he would have to apply local postage, and he should write "USA" in the address line of the mailing envelope

Voting by Absentee Ballot

- Next, Jim enters his mailing address in the upper left corner of the envelope – not his legal voting residence address
- You remind Jim that before mailing, he needs to review the voter checklist that is provided on the mailing envelope
- Notify Jim that, if possible, he should ask the mail clerk to hand stamp the FWAB envelope for proof of timely mailing



Voting by Absentee Ballot

- Two days after mailing the FWAB, Jim receives his regular state absentee ballot. You advise Jim that he should vote and return the ballot immediately.
- The regular ballot must be signed, dated, and postmarked by the day of the election
- If the regular ballot arrives by the deadline for receipt of absentee ballots, the state will count the regular ballot instead of the FWAB.
- Jim should return his regular ballot regardless of its receipt date because his state may allow late counting of these ballots from overseas citizens

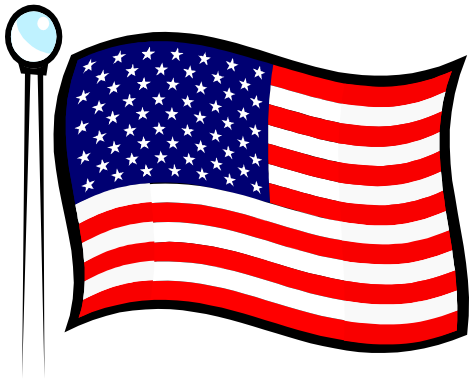
FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Role of the Military Voting Assistance Officer

The Military Voting Assistance Officer

This section of the VAO training program will provide you with information on:

- Your Service Voting Action Officer (SVAO)
- Your responsibilities as a VAO
- The voting assistance plan
- The continuity folder



The Military Voting Assistance Officer

- Within the Uniformed Services and the Merchant Marine, individuals at varying levels of command are responsible for implementing, managing, and carrying out voting assistance operations
- The following slide provide an overview of the voting assistance “chain of command” within each branch of the Armed Services

The Military Voting Assistance Officer

Service Voting Assistance Programs

Service Secretary

↓

Senior Service Voting Representative

↓

Service Voting Action Officer

↓

Installation Voting Officer

↓

YOU

The Military Voting Assistance Officer

Service Voting Action Officers

Army: Mr. Alton Perry
tel: (703) 325-4530, DSN 221-4530
fax: (703) 325-4532, DSN: 221-4532
email: voting.questions@conus.army.mil

Marine Corps: Mr. Kenneth Warford
tel: (703) 784-9511, DSN: 278-9511
fax: (703) 784-9828, DSN: 278-9828
email: mra.voting.officer@usmc.mil

Navy: Dave Stevens
tel: (901) 874-4634,DSN: 882-4634
fax: (901) 874-6844, DSN 882-6844
email: vote@navy.mil

Coast Guard: LTJG Frank Marcheski
tel: (202) 475-5382
fax: (202) 475-5927
email: Frank.A.Marcheski@uscg.mil

Air Force: Mr. William A. D'Avanzo
tel: (210) 565-2591, DSN: 665-2591, Option 5
fax: (210) 565-2543, DSN fax: 665-2543
email: dpsoof.votingfund@randolph.af.mil

The Military Voting Assistance Officer

Your responsibilities as a VAO:

- Become familiar with the *Voting Assistance Guide* (VAG) and the FVAP website (www.fvap.gov)
- Obtain a letter of designation from your Commanding Officer
- Receive VAO certification by attending an in-person FVAP workshop or through this CD Rom/web-based training
- Learn the absentee voting process
- Attend an orientation briefing with the Installation Commanding Officer (CO) prior to the start of primary elections
- Let others know that you are available as a resource and provide your contact information
- Sign up to receive the FVAP News Releases (send an email to vote@fvap.ncr.gov)

55

The Military Voting Assistance Officer

Your responsibilities as a VAO:

- Post notices in prominent locations reminding and motivating people to register and vo

- Ensure that there is an adequate supply of voting materials on hand year-round
- Armed Forces Voters Week (June 28-July 7, 2010)
  - Plan voting assistance activities such as non-partisan voter registration drives
- Absentee Voting Week (September 27-October 4, 2010)
  - During Absentee Voting Week, use media to notify voters to return the voted ballot immediately, and notify those who have not received their ballot to use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot

The Military Voting Assistance Officer

Your responsibilities as a VAO:

- Ensure delivery of the Federal Post Card Application to unit members and their dependents:
  - By January 15th of each year
  - By August 15 of each even numbered year
- Remind members in the organization who have received the FVAP Post Election Survey to complete it and return it immediately

The Military Voting Assistance Officer

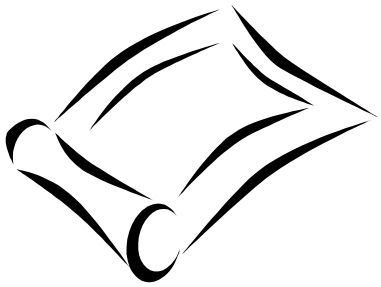
Your responsibilities as a VAO:

- As a VAO, you may provide only non-partisan voting procedures and information
- You may not distribute any literature from candidates, political parties, or partisan organizations
- The following resources provide more information on political activity by members of the Uniformed Services and Federal Employees:
  - Department of Defense Directive 1344.10, “Political Activities by Members of the Armed Forces on Active Duty” (http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/html/134410.htm)
  - The Hatch Act (restrictions on political activities by government employees) (www.osc.gov/hatchact.htm)

The Military Voting Assistance Officer

The Voting Action Plan

- The FVAP provides a biennial Voting Action Plan to implement the requirements of *UOCAVA* and Department of Defense Directive 1000.4 and to ensure that *UOCAVA* voters are provided all necessary voting information
- Each of the Uniformed Services has an internal voting action plan. To get a copy of this plan, contact your Service Voting Action Officer



The Military Voting Assistance Officer

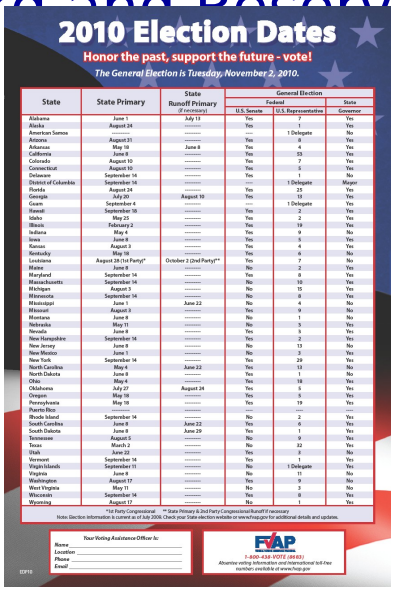
- In order to successfully carry out the duties of a VAO, it is important to have an effective voting assistance plan. To create an effective plan, consider the following activities:
  - Encourage citizens to learn about the candidates and the issues and to vote
  - Distribute all voting materials and information in a timely manner
  - Hold a non-partisan voter information briefing or registration drive
  - Attend a local FVAP workshop

The Military Voting Assistance Officer

Creating an effective voting assistance plan (continued)

- Display the 2010 Election Dates and motivational posters
- Reach out to younger citizens (18-24) who have statistically lower voter participation rates
- Include tenant organizations in your absentee voting activities, especially National Guard and Reserve Units

Honor the past,
support the future -
vote!
Design by: Department of Defense Graphic & Presentation Division ★ Slogan by: Andrea K. Bristol, Civilian, USA, Rock Island, IL
Federal Voting Assistance Program, 1155 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-1155 ★ www.fvap.gov ★ vote@fvap.ncr.gov ★ (800) 438-VOTE



The Military Voting Assistance Officer

Creating an effective voting assistance plan (continued)

- Disseminate copies of the “Frequently Asked Questions” for Uniformed Service Members”
- Send your good ideas and lessons learned to your Service Voting Action Officer (SVAO)
- Contact the FVAP if you cannot find answers locally or through your SVAO

The Military Voting Assistance Officer

The Continuity Folder/File

- Create and maintain a continuity folder for your reference and to ensure that your successor understands what he or she is supposed to do
- The continuity folder will help you demonstrate to the Inspector General that you are fulfilling your duties
- The continuity folder should include the following:
  - Current *Voting Assistance Guide*
  - Absentee voting forms (FPCA, FWAB)
  - VAO designation letter
  - Election Dates Calendar
  - Voting assistance good ideas and lessons learned
  - Recent Voting News Releases
  - VAO Training

The Military Voting Assistance Officer

VAO Material Checklist

- Internet Access
- Command Support
- Letter of Designation from C.O.
- Voting Assistance Materials
- Time and Resources dedicated to VAO Duties
- Assistant VAO (One assistant VAO required for each 50 members of your unit)
- Bookmark online forms and FVAP Website

Instructions on how to order materials are in Chapter 3 of the Voting Assistance Guide

The Military Voting Assistance Officer

Voting Emphasis Weeks

- Armed Forces and Overseas Citizens Voters Week
  - June 28-July 7, 2010
  - Stress completion and submission of FPCA

- Absentee Voting Week
  - September 27-October 4, 2010
  - Stress completion and submission of state ballots and FWAB

FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Additional Resources

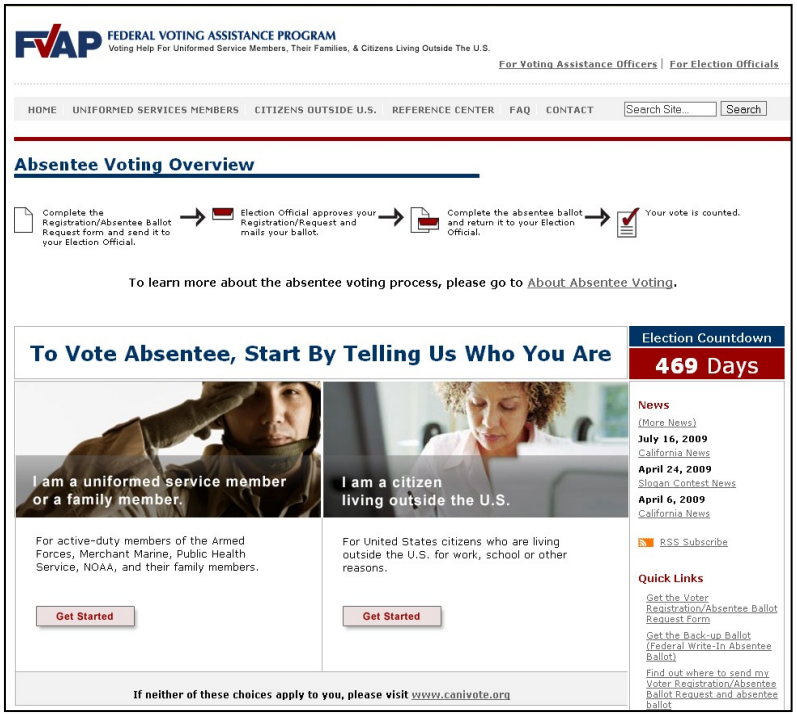
Additional Resources

- This section provides information on resources available to you as a VAO, including:
  - The FVAP website
  - Voting News Releases
  - Voting Assistance Guide Handouts
  - State Voter Registration Verification Websites
  - Frequently asked questions
  - Election Dates
  - 2010 Recommended Mailing Dates
  - FVAP contact information

Additional Resources

www.fvap.gov

- The FVAP website provides:
  - All of the FVAP's informational materials
  - Election information
  - The online *Voting Assistance Guide*
  - The online Federal Post Card Application
  - The online Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot
  - Links to state election sites, Federal government sites and overseas U.S. citizen organizations
  - Additional information and resources for VAOs

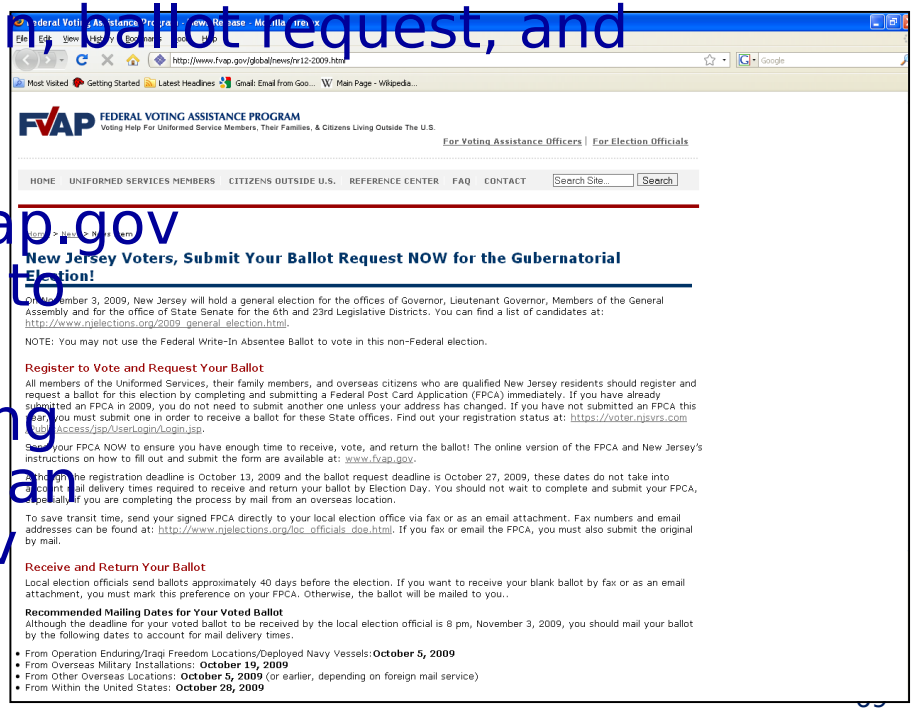

FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
Voting Help For Uniformed Service Members, Their Families, & Citizens Living Outside The U.S.
For Voting Assistance Officers | For Election Officials
HOME UNIFORMED SERVICES MEMBERS CITIZENS OUTSIDE U.S. REFERENCE CENTER FAQ CONTACT
Search Site... Search
Absentee Voting Overview
Complete the Registration/Absentee Ballot Request form and send it to your Election Official.
Election Official approves your Registration/Request and mails your ballot.
Complete the absentee ballot and return it to your Election Official.
Your vote is counted.
To learn more about the absentee voting process, please go to About Absentee Voting.
To Vote Absentee, Start By Telling Us Who You Are
Election Countdown
469 Days
I am a uniformed service member or a family member.
I am a citizen living outside the U.S.
For active-duty members of the Armed Forces, Merchant Marine, Public Health Service, NOAA, and their family members.
For United States citizens who are living outside the U.S. for work, school or other reasons.
Get Started
Get Started
If neither of these choices apply to you, please visit www.canivote.org
News
(More News)
July 16, 2009
California News
April 24, 2009
Slogan Contest News
April 6, 2009
California News
RSS Subscribe
Quick Links
Get the Voter Registration/Absentee Ballot Request Form
Get the Back-up Ballot (Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot)
Find out where to send my Voter Registration/Absentee Ballot Request and absentee ballot

Additional Resources

Voting News Releases

Voting News Releases provide time-sensitive periodic news releases that inform and educate VAOs and UOCAVA citizens about the latest critical information on election dates, absentee registration/ballot request, and voting procedures

- Voting News Releases are available online at www.fvap.gov and sent directly via email to VAOs
- Sign up to receive the Voting News Releases by sending an email to vote@fvap.ncr.gov


FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
Voting Help For Uniformed Service Members, Their Families, & Citizens Living Outside The U.S.
For Voting Assistance Officers | For Election Officials
HOME UNIFORMED SERVICES MEMBERS CITIZENS OUTSIDE U.S. REFERENCE CENTER FAQ CONTACT
Search Site... Search
New Jersey Voters, Submit Your Ballot Request NOW for the Gubernatorial Election!
On November 3, 2009, New Jersey will hold a general election for the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Members of the General Assembly and for the office of State Senate for the 6th and 23rd Legislative Districts. You can find a list of candidates at: http://www.njelections.org/2009_general_election.html.
NOTE: You may not use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot to vote in this non-Federal election.
Register to Vote and Request Your Ballot
All members of the Uniformed Services, their family members, and overseas citizens who are qualified New Jersey residents should register and request a ballot for this election by completing and submitting a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) immediately. If you have already submitted an FPCA in 2009, you do not need to submit another one unless your address has changed. If you have not submitted an FPCA this year, you must submit one in order to receive a ballot for these State offices. Find out your registration status at: https://voter.njsvrs.com/PublicAccess/jsp/UserLogin/Login.jsp.
Send your FPCA NOW to ensure you have enough time to receive, vote, and return the ballot! The online version of the FPCA and New Jersey's instructions on how to fill out and submit the form are available at: www.fvap.gov.
Although the registration deadline is October 13, 2009 and the ballot request deadline is October 27, 2009, these dates do not take into account mail delivery times required to receive and return your ballot by Election Day. You should not wait to complete and submit your FPCA, especially if you are completing the process by mail from an overseas location.
To save transit time, send your signed FPCA directly to your local election office via fax or as an email attachment. Fax numbers and email addresses can be found at: http://www.njelections.org/loc_officials_doe.html. If you fax or email the FPCA, you must also submit the original by mail.
Receive and Return Your Ballot
Local election officials send ballots approximately 40 days before the election. If you want to receive your blank ballot by fax or as an email attachment, you must mark this preference on your FPCA. Otherwise, the ballot will be mailed to you..
Recommended Mailing Dates for Your Voted Ballot
Although the deadline for your voted ballot to be received by the local election official is 8 pm, November 3, 2009, you should mail your ballot by the following dates to account for mail delivery times.
• From Operation Enduring/Iraqi Freedom Locations/Deployed Navy Vessels: October 5, 2009
• From Overseas Military Installations: October 19, 2009
• From Other Overseas Locations: October 5, 2009 (or earlier, depending on foreign mail service)
• From Within the United States: October 28, 2009

Additional Resources

Voting Assistance Guide Handouts

- Frequently Asked Questions for Uniformed Service Members
- Frequently Asked Questions for Overseas Citizens
- 2010 Primary Election Dates
- U.S. Embassy and Consulate Email Addresses

Additional Resources

Voter Registration Verification

- Voters can verify their registration status online in 34 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico
- Links to these “State Voter Registration Verification Websites” are provided at www.fvap.gov

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Additional Resources

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- FAQs for Uniformed Service Members are available online and in the *Voting Assistance Guide*
- The FAQs provides answers on a variety of *UOCAVA* and election topics, including:
  - Qualifying to Vote Absentee & Determining Where to Vote
  - Registering and Requesting an Absentee Ballot
  - Casting Your Vote
  - Problems Receiving a Ballot
  - Other Election Information

Additional Resources

2010 Primary Election Dates:

2010 Primary Elections by State

This chart lists the 2010 State primary election dates in all the States, the District of Columbia and U.S. Territories; primary runoff dates (if applicable); States with U.S. Senate races; number of U.S. Representative seats up for re-election; and Gubernatorial races. **The General Election is Tuesday, November 2, 2010.**

State	State Primary	State Runoff Primary (If necessary)	General Election		
			Federal Offices		State
			U.S. Senate	U.S. Representative	Governor
Alabama	June 1	July 13	Yes	7	Yes
Alaska	August 24	----------	Yes	1	Yes
American Samoa	----------	----------	-----	1 Delegate	No
Arizona	August 31	----------	Yes	8	Yes
Arkansas	May 18	June 8	Yes	4	Yes
California	June 8	----------	Yes	53	Yes
Colorado	August 10	----------	Yes	7	Yes
Connecticut	August 10	----------	Yes	5	Yes
Delaware	September 14	----------	Yes	1	No
District of Columbia	September 14	----------	-----	1 Delegate	Mayor
Florida	August 24	----------	Yes	25	Yes
Georgia	July 20	August 10	Yes	13	Yes
Guam	September 4	----------	-----	1 Delegate	Yes
Hawaii	September 18	----------	Yes	2	Yes
Idaho	May 25	----------	Yes	2	Yes
Illinois	February 2	----------	Yes	19	Yes
Indiana	May 4	----------	Yes	9	No
Iowa	June 8	----------	Yes	5	Yes
Kansas	August 3	----------	Yes	4	Yes
Kentucky	May 18	----------	Yes	6	No
Louisiana	August 28 (1st Party)*	October 2 (2nd Party)**	Yes	7	No
Maine	June 8	----------	No	2	Yes
Maryland	September 14	----------	Yes	8	Yes
Massachusetts	September 14	----------	No	10	Yes
Michigan	August 3	----------	No	15	Yes
Minnesota	September 14	----------	No	8	Yes
Mississippi	June 1	June 22	No	4	No
Missouri	August 3	----------	Yes	9	No
Montana	June 8	----------	No	1	No
Nebraska	May 11	----------	No	3	Yes
Nevada	June 8	----------	Yes	3	Yes
New Hampshire	September 14	----------	Yes	2	Yes
New Jersey	June 8	----------	No	13	No
New Mexico	June 1	----------	No	3	Yes
New York	September 14	----------	Yes	29	yes
North Carolina	May 4	June 22	Yes	13	No
North Dakota	June 8	----------	Yes	1	No
Ohio	May 4	----------	Yes	18	Yes
Oklahoma	July 27	August 24	Yes	5	Yes
Oregon	May 18	----------	Yes	5	Yes
Pennsylvania	May 18	----------	Yes	19	Yes
Puerto Rico	----------	----------	-----	-----	-----
Rhode Island	September 14	----------	No	2	Yes
South Carolina	June 8	June 22	Yes	6	Yes
South Dakota	June 8	June 29	Yes	1	Yes
Tennessee	August 5	----------	No	9	Yes
Texas	March 2	----------	No	32	Yes
Utah	June 22	----------	Yes	3	No
Vermont	September 14	----------	Yes	1	Yes
Virgin Islands	September 11	----------	No	1 Delegate	Yes
Virginia	June 8	----------	No	11	No
Washington	August 17	----------	Yes	9	No
West Virginia	May 11	----------	No	3	No
Wisconsin	September 14	----------	Yes	8	Yes
Wyoming	August 17	----------	No	1	Yes

*1st Party Congressional. **State Primary, & 2nd Party Congressional Runoff if necessary

Note: Election information is current as of July 2009. Check your State election website or www.fvap.gov for additional details and updates.

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http://www.fvap.gov/vao/calendar.html

Additional Resources

2010 Recommended Mailing Dates

- From Operation Enduring/Iraqi Freedom, Deployed Naval Vessels: 4 weeks before the election
- From Other Overseas Military Installations: 2 weeks before the election
- From Other Overseas Locations: 4 weeks before the election (depending on foreign mail service)
- From Within the United States: 1 week before the election

Contact FVAP

Website: www.fvap.gov
Email: vote@fvap.ncr.gov
Phone: Commercial: 703-588-1584
Toll-free: 800-438-VOTE (8683)
DSN: 425-1584

Toll-free commercial phone numbers from 67 countries (list available at www.fvap.gov)

Toll-free commercial fax numbers from 51 countries (list available at www.fvap.gov)

Contact FVAP

Twitter: twitter.com/fvap

YOUR COUNTRY NEEDS
YOU!
To REGISTER, VOTE and Get
EVERYONE
You Know To Do So Also!
twitter
Login Join Twitter!
Hey there! FVAP is using Twitter.
Twitter is a free service that lets you keep in touch with people through the exchange of quick, frequent answers to one simple question: What are you doing? Join today to start receiving FVAP's tweets.
Join today!
Already using Twitter from your phone? Click here.
FVAP
Massachusetts voters request your ballots for the Dec 8 Special Election -http://bit.ly/uKegm
2:38 PM Sep 17th from web
@militaryupdates is it possible for you to retweet our tweets? We don't do many but those we do are important to military voters.
2:31 PM Sep 17th from web
Massachusetts voters request your ballots for the Dec 8 Special Election -http://bit.ly/uKegm
1:29 PM Sep 17th from web
New Jersey Voters, Submit Your Ballot Request NOW for the Gubernatorial Election! http://bit.ly/sMdK4
12:24 PM Sep 2nd from web
Virginia Voters, Submit Your Ballot Request NOW for the November 3, 2009 General Election! http://bit.ly/x5scU
12:23 PM Sep 2nd from web
FVAP has a new direction - http://bit.ly/1UpWQI
10:34 AM Aug 5th from web
Name FVAP
Location Arlington, VA
Web http://www.fvap.gov
Bio Supporting and facilitating military and overseas absentee voting.
44 following
99 followers
Tweets 10
Favorites
Following
View All...
RSS feed of FVAP's tweets

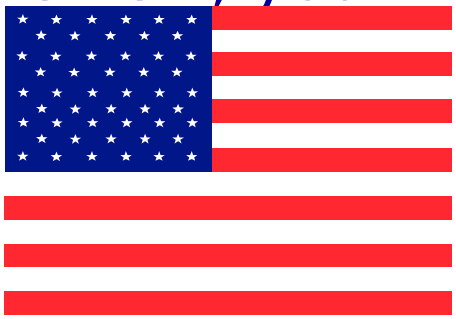
Contact FVAP

Facebook: www.facebook.com/dodfvap

facebook
Remember Me
Forgot your password?
Email
Password
Login
Sign Up
Federal Voting Assistance Program, DoD is on Facebook
Sign up for Facebook to connect with Federal Voting Assistance Program, DoD.
FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
Federal Voting Assistance Program, DoD
Wall
Info
Photos
Discussions
Boxes
Video
Filters
Supporting military and overseas citizens absentee voting. We're here for you!
Honor the past, support the future - VOTE!
Information
Location:
1155 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC, 20301
Phone:
703-588-1584 or Toll Free
1-800-438-VOTE (8683)
Fans
6 of 160 fans
See All
Amy
Madeleine
John
George
Gilles
Holly
Favorite Pages
6 Pages
See All
Federal Voting Assistance Program, DoD
Massachusetts Voters, Submit Your Ballot Request NOW for the December 8, 2009 Special Primary!
On Tuesday, December 8, 2009, Massachusetts will hold a special primary election followed by the special State election on Tuesday, January 19, 2010 to fill the vacancy left as a result of the passing of Senator Edward M. Kennedy...
September 17 at 1:33pm
Shawn Taylor Thanks for helping me vote last year even though I'm living in Korea! :o)
September 4 at 10:18am · Report
Robert Checkoway Hi FVAP. I wonder if you would consider adding Democrats Abroad and Republicans Abroad to your Favorite Pages?
September 4 at 1:35am · Report
Federal Voting Assistance Program, DoD Virginia Voters, Submit Your Ballot Request NOW for the November 3, 2009 General Election!
Federal Voting Assistance Program - News Release
Source: www.fvap.gov
On November 3, 2009, the Commonwealth of Virginia will hold a general election for the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, House of Delegates, and various other State and local offices. You can find a list of candidates at: www.sbe.state.va.us.
September 2 at 12:26pm
Robert, Cynthia and Dianna like this.
Federal Voting Assistance Program, DoD New Jersey Voters, Submit Your Ballot Request NOW for the Gubernatorial Election!
Federal Voting Assistance Program - News Release
Source: www.fvap.gov
On November 3, 2009, New Jersey will hold a general election for the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Members of the General Assembly and for the office of State Senate for the 6th and 23rd Legislative Districts. ...
September 2 at 12:25pm
Robert likes this.

Quick Review

The following is a quick review of the main points to remember from this training program. After you finish the review, you may complete the Certificate of



Quick Review

- Individuals covered under UOCAVA include:
  - Active duty members of the Uniformed Services
  - Uniformed Service family members
  - Members of the Merchant Marine
  - Merchant Marine family members
  - Civilians residing outside the United States
- VAOs help to ensure that U.S. citizens understand their voting rights and how to register and vote absentee under *UOCAVA*
- The FVAP biennial Voting Action Plan and DOD Directive 1000.4 establish policy and guidelines for an effective voting assistance program

Quick Review

- The primary resources for a VAO include:
  - The *Voting Assistance Guide*
  - The FVAP website
  - The Service Voting Action Officer (SVAO)
- An effective voting assistance plan includes:
  - Distributing voting materials in a timely manner
  - Displaying the Election Dates and motivational posters
  - Planning voting assistance activities
- All states have two basic voting requirements
  - A voter must be a citizen of the U.S
  - At least 18 years old (17 in some states if 18 by the general election)

Quick Review

- The Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) can be used by *UOCAVA* voters to register and request a ballot
  - The FPCA is available online
  - Voters should send in a new FPCA in January of each year or if/when there is a change of address
- The Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) is a backup or emergency ballot that UOCAVA citizens can use in general elections for Federal office
  - The FWAB is available online
  - Citizens should submit FWAB no later than 30 days prior to the election
- The FVAP conducts in-person workshops in Washington D.C. and around the world

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Certification

Congratulations on completing the 2010-2011 Voting Assistance Officer Training! The following slide contains the Certificate of Completion. Please fill in your name, organization, command, or activity, and date at the bottom.

Thank you for your participation and for your service as a Voting Assistance Officer.

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Department of Defense
Federal Voting Assistance Program

Certificate of Training

On-Line/CD Rom Workshop for Voting Assistance Officers

Presented To

_____

_____

Command, Activity or Organization, Location

_____ _____

Director, Federal Voting Assistance Program

Date

FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Federal Voting Assistance Program

Department of Defense

Military Voting Assistance Officers

Self-Administered Training